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the criminal classes and the possibilities of their reform, there is one subject dealt with here that is of interest to the student of morbid psychology, the report on *The Registration of Criminals* (p. 73). "The new method of identifying prisoners, introduced into France by M. Alphonse Bertillon, and which is now successfully practiced not only in all the French prisons, but also in Russia, Japan, Spain, Italy, and some parts of Germany, has, within the past year, made quite a headway in the United States. It consists in the exact measurement of the prisoner on his arrival at the jail or prison. His height, the length and width of his head, the left foot, the outstretched arms, the trunk of the person seated, the four fingers of the left hand, the left arm, and the length of the ear are measured; and the color of the eyes and any particular marks are noted down; and a photograph of the prisoner is taken, both in profile and full-face view. It will be noticed that all the measurements mentioned are those of the bone dimensions of the human body after the body has attained its mature growth." The measurements thus obtained are catalogued and systematized in such a manner that it is possible to identify immediately, by reference to a central office, any person whose measurements have been recorded. The psychological interest of this new departure is that it promises some light on the existence or non-existence of the so-called criminal type. If such measurements are carried out systematically over a series of years and are then submitted to rigid investigation, the means would seem to be at hand for settling some of the questions raised by Lombroso and others of the new school of criminologists. The practical value of the method for gaining the result sought, the identification of criminals, has been abundantly proved in France, where about one hundred thousand cases are filed, and where they are used every day in furnishing information to the courts; no mistake has as yet occurred.

W. N.

Verbrechensverübung im Traumwandeln. Dr. HERMANN ORTLOFF.
Gerichtlich-medizinische Fälle und Abhandlungen, Heft II,
1888, pp. 35-64.

The author gives in readable fashion a case of alleged arson that came before him for investigation, in which the question of crime in sleep-walking held an important place. A fire broke out at night in a farmer's house, destroying a large part of its contents, including valuables belonging to his wife. Suspicion fastened on the wife herself, chiefly on the testimony of the maid-servant, who asserted that her mistress was eccentric, went about the house at night, and had brought fagots into the house just before the discovery of the fire. The place where the fire started made it quickly destructive to the property of the mistress, and for other reasons it seemed clear that if she set the fire she did so without consciousness. The assertions of the servant were, however, denied, and she herself was not above suspicion. The age of the mistress, 37, the slight nature of the nervous trouble from which she suffered, and the planfulness of the act were against the sleep-walking theory. The case was dismissed for lack of evidence, but the question remains, was it or was it not a sleep-walking crime?